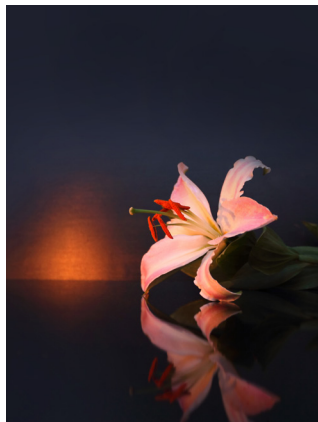


Hymn of the Week

April 21, 2019 • Easter Sunday

Myrrh-Bearing Mary



Text: Rae E. Whitney, 1981.

During my work with the Fellowship of Ss. Alban and Sergius in London, I first came across the Eastern church's observance of the "Sunday of Myrrh-bearing women" (the second Sunday following Pascha). Seven women are traditionally named as myrrh-bearers. However, the Western church has fused several women in the one we commemorate on July 29 in the liturgical calendar (Mary of Bethany, with Martha, her sister). So in this text I have deliberately used both traditions. It is a simple text with planned repetition, but it has become a favorite, no matter which of these tunes is used. I was moved to hear of two separate events at which some choir members, on hearing this hymn for the first time, wept. –Rae E. Whitney

Music: MYRRH-BEARING MARY, Alfred V. Fedak, 1989.
MYRRH-BEARING MARY, David Hurd, 1990.

Topics: Biblical Names (Calvary, Mary Magdalene), Life of Christ

Scriptural References: Matthew 26:6–13, 27:55–56, 28:1; Mark 16, Luke 8:2,
John 12:1–3, 20:10–18

Publications

The Alfred V. Fedak Hymnary (Selah, 1990)
Common Praise (Anglican Church of Canada, 1998)
The David Hurd Hymnary (GIA, 2010)
Fear Not, Little Flock: Vol. I (Selah, 2006)
A New Hymns for Colleges and Schools (Yale University, 1992)
New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1994)
A Panorama of Christian Hymnody (GIA, 2005)
A Survey of Christian Hymnody (Hope, 2010)
Together in Song: Australian Hymn Book II (1999)
Voices Found (Church Publishing, 2003)



*This hymn may be reproduced
for worship programs
by contacting Selah Publishing
at www.selahpub.com
or licensing through OneLicense.net.*

Myrrh-Bearing Mary

Myrrh-bearing Mary from Magdala came
seeking her Jesus, with spirit aflame;
he had commanded her sickness depart;
she now would thank him for newness of heart.

Myrrh-bearing Mary to Bethany came
seeking her Jesus who'd called her by name;
there she anointed his feet and his head
with precious oils that were meant for the dead.

Myrrh-bearing Mary to Calvary came
seeking her Jesus who hung there in shame;
and as the careless and heedless passed by,
hopeless and helpless she watched her Lord die.

Myrrh-bearing Mary to death's garden came
seeking her Jesus who'd borne the world's blame;
heart-sick she stood, till she heard the Lord's voice:
"Mary!" he said, "I am risen; rejoice!"

Text: Rae E. Whitney, 1981, © 1990 *Selah Publishing Co., Inc.*

In the Eastern Churches Mary is known as one of the "Myrrh-bearing women" or Myrrhophores (Mark 16). Tradition has fused several women of the Scriptures into Mary Magdalene.

Myrrh-Bearing Mary

Unison

1 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y from Mag - da - la came
 2 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Beth - a - ny came
 3 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Cal - va - ry came
 4 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to death's gar - den came

seek - ing her Je - sus, with spir - it a - flame.
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd called her by name;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who hung there in shame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd borne the world's blame;

He had com - mand - ed her sick - ness de - part;
 there she a - noint - ed his feet and his head
 and, as the care - less and heed - less passed by,
 heart - sick, she stood, till she heard the Lord's voice:

she now would thank him for new - ness of heart.
 with pre - cious oils that were meant for the dead.
 hope - less and help - less, she watched her Lord die.
 "Mar - y!" he said, "I am ris - en; re - - - - - joyce!"

Myrrh-Bearing Mary



1 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y from Mag - da - la came
 2 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Beth - a - ny came
 3 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Cal - va - ry came
 4 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to death's gar - den came



seek - ing her Je - sus, with spir - it a - flame.
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd called her by name;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who hung there in shame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd borne the world's blame;



He had com - mand - ed her sick - ness de - part;
 there she a - noint - ed his feet and his head
 and, as the care - less and heed - less passed by,
 heart - sick, she stood, till she heard the Lord's voice:

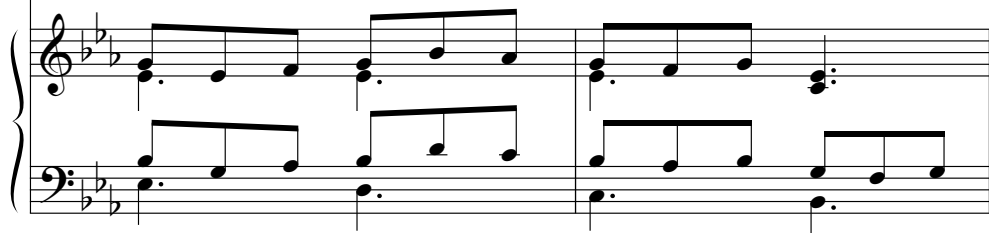


she now would thank him for new - ness of heart.
 with pre - cious oils that were meant for the dead.
 hope - less and help - less, she watched her Lord die.
 "Mar - y!" he said, "I am ris - en; re - joice!"

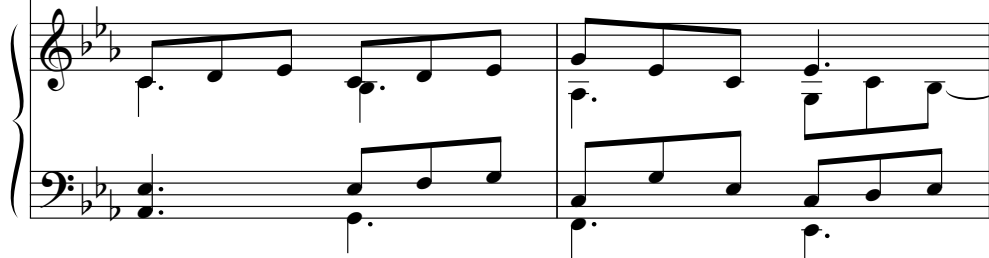
Myrrh-Bearing Mary



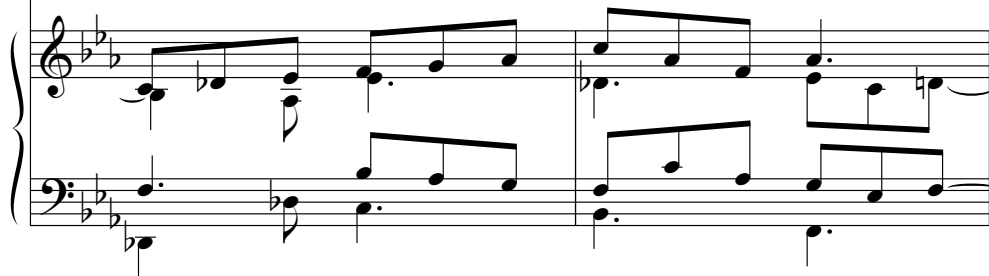
1 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y from Mag - da - la came
 2 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Beth - a - ny came
 3 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Cal - va - ry came
 4 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to death's gar - den came



seek - ing her Je - sus, with spir - it a - flame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd called her by name;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who hung there in shame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd borne the world's blame;



He had com - mand - ed her sick - ness de - part,
 there she a - noint - ed his feet and his head
 and as the care - less and heed - less passed by,
 heart - sick she stood, till she heard the Lord's voice:



Myrrh-Bearing Mary



1 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y from Mag - da - la came
 2 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Beth - a - ny came
 3 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to Cal - va - ry came
 4 Myrrh - bear - ing Mar - y to death's gar - den came



seek - ing her Je - sus, with spir - it a - flame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd called her by name;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who hung there in shame;
 seek - ing her Je - sus who'd borne the world's blame;



He had com - mand - ed her sick - ness de - part,
 there she a - noint - ed his feet and his head
 and as the care - less and heed - less passed by,
 heart - sick she stood, till she heard the Lord's voice:



she now would thank him for new - ness of
 with pre - cious oils that were meant for the
 hope - less and help - less she watched her Lord
 "Mar - y!" he said, "I am ris - en; re-



heart.
 dead.
 die.

joice!"